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Commerce Surpasses Goal to Meet with 1,000 Hoosier Businesses, Launches Region 6 Blitz

INDIANAPOLIS-Lt. Gov. Kathy Davis today announced that the Indiana Department of Commerce has surpassed its goal of meeting with 1,000 Hoosier businesses this year and will launch the Region 6 blitz in West Central Indiana.

Thus far, Commerce's regional directors have met with 1,051 Hoosier businesses through regional blitzes that serve as a continuation of the agency's "Energize Indiana 2 Go" initiative. The purpose of the meetings is to promote state economic development tools and survey companies about their future industry needs.

"The state of Indiana recognizes the importance of meeting with Hoosier businesses to better understand their needs and outline how the state can help them achieve their goals," said Davis, who serves as the agency's director. "We are strengthening the state's partnerships in the private and public sector, and discussing ways to keep Indiana's economy moving in the right direction."

"Energize Indiana 2 Go" is a follow-up to the Energize Indiana forums led by Gov. Joe Kernan and the late Gov. Frank O'Bannon and includes promotion of the State's recent tax restructuring initiative through the "GO" marketing campaign. Today's meeting marks the eighth of 12 regional blitzes, with the remainder of visits scheduled throughout the rest of the year.

Commerce's 12 regional offices are leading the visits, coordinating two-person teams of state and local officials who will meet with companies throughout the region.

As a part of the Region 6 blitz, representatives from the Department of Commerce will join local economic development officials to visit 35 companies throughout the region, which includes: Clay, Fountain, Montgomery, Parke, Putnam, Sullivan, Vermillion and Vigo counties.

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Region 6 Blitz/add1

“We want to ensure that businesses both in and outside of the state know that Indiana is the best place to do business,” added Davis. “Sharing this message with the business community plays a key role in growing our economy and creating more jobs for Hoosiers.”

Since January, Commerce has provided \$135 million in incentives to retain 41,142 jobs and to support the creation of 8,935 new jobs. In total, Commerce incentives have leveraged \$1.5 billion in private investment.

The Indiana Department of Commerce provides a broad range of services to businesses and communities, including training grants, trade show assistance, tax credits and funding for infrastructure projects.

For more information about programs offered by the Department of Commerce, contact your regional Commerce office at 800.463.8081 or visit www.indianacommerce.com <<http://www.indianacommerce.com/>>. For more information on the “GO” Campaign, visit www.go.indiana.gov.

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